United Nations A/67/L.75*

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
17 July 2013

Original: English

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 14
Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

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Sanitation for All

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/192 of 20 December 2006 on the International Year of Sanitation, 2008 and 65/153 of 20 December 2010 on the follow-up to the International Year of Sanitation, 2008,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions and resolutions of the Human Rights Council on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation,

Recalling further its resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010, "Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals",

* Reissued for technical reasons on 23 July 2013.

13-39821* (E) 230713

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Reaffirming Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and General Assembly resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

Reaffirming also the commitment to implement Agenda 21,[1] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[2] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[3] including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming further the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012 entitled "The future we want",[4]

Deeply concerned by the slow and insufficient progress in providing access to basic sanitation services, as shown in the 2012 update report of the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization,[5] in which it was noted that 2.5 billion people continue to lack basic sanitation, and conscious of the impact of the lack of sanitation on people's health, poverty reduction efforts, economic and social development and the environment, in particular water resources,

Appreciating the ongoing work of the organizations of the United Nations system and the work of other intergovernmental organizations on sanitation,

Noting that sanitation-related activities, events and initiatives are observed each year in many countries,

Noting also the efforts of countries that are participating in all relevant voluntary initiatives related to water and sanitation, including the Sanitation and Water for All Partnership, to share their experience with interested Member States,

Recognizing that events organized on 19 November in many Member States in the context of World Toilet Day have contributed to a better awareness and concerted actions on different aspects of the critical issue of sanitation for all, and acknowledging in this regard the critical role of civil society organizations,

1. *Decides*, in the context of Sanitation for All, to designate 19 November as World Toilet Day;

2. *Urges* all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and all other relevant stakeholders to encourage behavioural change, together with policies for increasing access to sanitation among the poor, complemented by a call to end open defecation as an practice extremely harmful to public health;

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[2] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[3] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[4] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[5] *Progess on Drinking Water and Sanitation: 2012 Update*, United Nations Children's Fund and World Health Organization, 2012.

3. *Encourages* all Member States, as well as the organizations of the United Nations system and international organizations and other stakeholders, to approach the sanitation issue in a much broader context and to encompass all its aspects, including hygiene promotion, the provision of basic sanitation services, sewerage and wastewater treatment and reuse in the context of integrated water management;

4. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, to observe World Toilet Day in the context of Sanitation for All in an appropriate manner, including through education and activities to raise public awareness on the importance of access to sanitation for all;

5. *Urges* all Member States, as well as the organizations of the United Nations system, international organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to accelerate progress in order to achieve Millennium Development Goal 7 and other Millennium Development Goals related to sanitation, including through redoubling efforts to close the sanitation gap through scaled-up ground-level action, and noting in this regard the global effort to realize "Sustainable sanitation: the five-year drive to 2015";

6. *Stresses* that the costs of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions, subject to the availability and provision of voluntary contributions for this specific purpose;

7. *Requests* UN-Water, in consultation with relevant entities of the United Nations system, mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to facilitate the implementation of World Toilet Day in the context of Sanitation for All, in collaboration with Governments and relevant stakeholders;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States and organizations of the United Nations system.